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Hearings Urged on C.I.A.'s Role in Chile

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BEVERLY, Mass., Sept. 8—Representative Michael J. Harrington called today for full-scale public hearings into the central intelligence agency's clandestine operations against the Government of President Salvador Allende Gossens of Chile.

In an interview at his home here, Mr. Harrington said he would formally request the House Foreign Affairs Committee, of which he is a member, to summon Secretary of State Kissinger and William E. Colby, Director of Central Intelligence, to testify about the Chilean policy of the United States.

The New York Times reported today that Mr. Colby told a House committee in April that the C.I.A. was authorized to spend more than \$8-million clandestinely from 1970 to 1973 in an effort to make it impossible for President Allende to govern. The Allende Government was overthrown in a violent military coup on Sept. 11, 1973, in which the Chilean leader died.

Kissinger's Role

In calling for hearings, Mr. Harrington declared that one reason senior officials in Congress were reluctant to investigate Chilean policy was what he termed a "disinclination" to turn up facts that might reflect adversely on Mr. Kissinger.

"Without knowing anything at all about Mr. Kissinger's role in all of this," Mr. Harrington said, "Congress is hesitating because of fear that they'll run into Kissinger."

"It's obvious to me," he added, "that the role played by Kissinger is going to be of significance in the evaluation of how the policy toward Chile evolved. But there's a disinclination in Congress to even get into some areas that might peripherally damage or embarrass Kissinger."

In his testimony before a House subcommittee on intelligence last April 22, Mr. Colby noted that all of the C.I.A.'s efforts against President Al-

lende were directly approved by the 40 committee, a high-level intelligence review committee that has been headed by Mr. Kissinger since the beginning of the Nixon Administration in early 1969.

"We're not going to undo what happened in Chile," Mr. Harrington said today, "but we must examine the role of the intelligence community in foreign policy."

"When you look at the Colby testimony, you'll see that the notion of Congressional oversight of the C.I.A. is passive, bystandish, totally ineffective."

Mr. Harrington's public call today for hearings was his latest in a series of attempts, most of them in private, to force senior members of the Senate and House to begin a review of the Central Intelligence Agency's Chilean policy.

The C.I.A. report published today was based in part on a confidential seven-page letter Mr. Harrington wrote in mid-July to Representative Thomas E. Morgan, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, in which Mr. Colby's testimony was summarized. The Times received a copy of the letter from an outside source.

Mr. Harrington said today that he had sent a similar letter to Senator J. W. Fulbright, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

In his letter to Mr. Morgan, Mr. Harrington complained that he had discussed Mr. Colby's testimony with other members of the committee and concluded that there would be no "further investigations or hearings into the broader policy questions that such activities pose."

So far, Mr. Harrington said today, Mr. Morgan has refused to permit such hearings, arguing that the Foreign Affairs Committee does not have the authority to pursue questions of C.I.A. activities.

"Kissinger and Colby should testify," Mr. Harrington maintained. "It's just inane to suggest that a foreign affairs committee has no authority to conduct such hearings."

Mr. Harrington refused to

characterize Mr. Fulbright's response to his letter, but a Senate source said later today that the Arkansas Democrat had told the Congressman that he could see "no useful purpose" in reopening the Foreign Relations Committee hearings into Chile.

"What this really means," the Senate source said, "is that he doesn't want to take Kissinger on head on because it could mean exposing the fact that Kissinger himself was the man who controlled and directed the policy of using covert action to make it impossible for Allende to govern."

Colby's Testimony Praised

Mr. Harrington, a liberal Democrat who was first elected to Congress in 1969, praised Mr. Colby's testimony as "The most direct, unambiguous and to the point I've ever seen." He was permitted to review the still classified 48-page Chilean transcript in June by Representative Lucien M. Nedzi, chairman of the House Armed Services subcommittee on intelligence.

Mr. Harrington recalled today that his initial reaction after reading the account was one of "profound shock."

"I did not expect to see the documentation of theories I hadn't held myself," he said. "I'd never subscribed to the conspiracy theories 'about the United States' involvement in the disintegration of the Allende Government."

"Colby's testimony may have been matter-of-fact," Mr. Harrington added, "but it also was almost clinical—as if you had a well-trained surgeon called in to describe procedures. You didn't get the feeling that there was any element of right or wrong that went into the decisions about what to do."